

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 072504

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 31 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

PRES AT PALM SPRINGS BEING KEPT INFORMED ABOUT INDOCHINA

FIGHTING; BUT RELIABLE INFO "SLOW IN ARRIVING," ACCORDING

NESSEN (WINTERS, SUN).

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WESTMORELAND SAYS US INCURRED OBLIGATION TO SEE INDOCHINA

WAR THROUGH TO END, THOUGH US INVOLVEMENT WAS OVEREXTENDED

CONTAINMENT POLICY "INEVITABLE" RESULT (AYRES, NYT 3/29).

AT NHA TRANG, WEYAND SAYS GVN MASS RETREAT OVER, THINGS STABILIZED. INDICATES ARVN WILL SET UP HEAVY DEFENSES N OF NHA TRANG. ADDS RETREAT DIFFICULT, SVN FORCES DIDN'T HAVE TIME DO IT WELL, AND GVN DECIDED DEFEND ONLY "VIABLE" PORTIONS OF COUNTRY, INCLUDING NHA TRANG AREAS TO S. APPEALS TO NVN PERMIT REFUGEES LEAVE COMBAT AREAS INSTEAD OF SHELLING THEM, AS THOSE WHO FLED HIGHLANDS JAM CITY (YATES, CHITRIB). GVN TRYING ESTABLISH LINE N OF NHA TRANG TO HALT COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE DEVELOPING ALONG COAST, IN HOPE BUY TIME TO MOUNT SAIGON DEFENSE (MIDDLETON, NYT - IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

SUDDEN COMMUNIST GAINS STUN GVN, AND QUESTION HOW NVA COULD ACCOMPLISH IN 3 WKS WHAT HAD BEEN BEYOND THEIR REACH FOR QUARTER-CENTURY EXPECTED OCCUPY MIL/POLITICAL ANALYSTS IN FUTURE; IN SAIGON FEW OFFICIALS OF ANY NATIONALITY WILL SAY NON-COMMUNIST GOVT CAN SURVIVE MUCH LONGER (BROWNE, NYT - IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). WP'S GEORGE WILSON SAYS US ANALYSTS BLAME THIEU'S OVERREACTION TO RELATIVELY MINOR NVA TROOP MOVEMENTS FOR GVN REVERSAL (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). CSM'S SOUTHERLAND IN SAIGON LAYS SVN "UNRAVELING" TO CRACK IN SELF-CONFIDENCE AND AUTHORITY OF LEADERSHIP THAT TURNED STRATEGIC REDEPLOYMENT INTO ROUT (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). WSJ'S KANN IN SAIGON DESCRIBES SITUATION OF "SUPPRESSED HYSTERIA," FEAR AND FANTASY PERVADING CITY AS REALITY OF POSSIBLE COLLAPSE BEGINS DAWN IN POPULATION. MIL, OTHER ANALYSTS EXPRESS LESS CONFIDENCE MIL SITUATION CAN BE SALVAGED. POOR APPEAR CALM, MIDDLE-CLASS WORRIES COMPOUNDED BY LACK OF INFO; GVN SAYS LITTLE, CONSPIRACY THEORIES ABOUT TO EXPLAIN PRESENT SITUATION. AP FROM SAIGON REPORTS THIEU'S POWER UNDERMINED; QUOTES INFORMED SOURCES THAT PUSH ON SAIGON NEAR AND MAJOR COMMUNIST ASSAULT AGAINST CAPITAL COULD NOT BE RESISTED ADEQUATELY.

WITNESS SAYS DA NANG FELL WITHOUT FIGHT (AFP, WP); HALF UNCLASSIFIED

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SVN NOW IN NVA, VC HANDS. GVN COMMANDER OF FALLEN NORTHERN PROVS, GEN TRUONG, REFUSES THIEU'S ORDER REPORT TO SAIGON FOR EMERGENCY MEETING, STAYS ON SHIP OFF COAST, ACCORDING MIL SOURCES. COMMUNIST COMMANDOS REPORTED ABOARD PIONEER COMMANDER, US-CHARTERED VESSEL THAT LEFT DA NANG WITH REFUGEES AND SOLDIERS (UPI, WP). VC DENOUNCES US-LED DA NANG REFUGEE SEALIFT AS "DECEPTIVE TRICK" TO ASSIST GVN, THREATENS PUNISH ACTS OF ENCROACHMENT ON SOVEREIGNTY (CSM).

NVN/VC CONDEMN PRES FORD'S DECISION SEND USN SHIPS TO DA NANG, CALL IT GRAVE VIOLATION OF C-F (REUTER, NYT). NESSEN SAYS PRES ORDERED US SHIPS PULL BACK IF FIRED UPON. TWO NAVY AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS EXPECTED REACH VN

COAST BY EARLY APRIL 1 TO PICK UP REFUGEES FERRIED OUT IN SMALL BOATS (HEALY, NYDN). ADMIN GIVES ELABORATE ASSURANCES USN SHIPS WILL NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN HOSTILITIES (HERBERS, NYT - IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). UK SENDING SHIP ASSIST; FRG, AUSTRALIA, SK, PHILS, TAIWAN HAVE INDICATED WILL PROVIDE VESSELS FOR REFUGEE EVACUATION (CHITRIB).

AUSSIE MD EVACUATED FROM SVN SAYS REFUGEES CRUSHED AS RAN UNDER US EVACUATION PLANE, BUT AIRCRAFT HAD NO ALTERNATIVE (UPI FROM SYDNEY, WP). US AIR CREWS WHO

FLEW LAST EVACUATION FLIGHT FROM DA NANG ATTENDED MASS FOR REFUGEES. PILOTS DESCRIBED OVERLOADED FLIGHT (UPI, NYDN).

COMMUNISTS ROLL SOUTH, MENACE REFUGEE EVACUATION (NYDN). NYT'S WEINRAUB IN SAIGON REPORTS SCANT OPPOSITION MET BY NVA AT DA NANG, CONSIDERS LOSS PERHAPS SINGLE BIGGEST REVERSE YET FOR GVN. NVA SWEEPING SOUTH, THREATENS QUI NHON AND TUY HOA; QUOTES W SOURCE THAT US OFFICIALS AND S VIETS BEING EVACUATED FROM BOTH. SEES GRIM OUTLOOK FOR ARVN WITH DA NANG LOSS, SINCE ABOUT 100,000 GVN TROOPS IN AREA ON RUN OR TRAPPED. NOTES SAIGON CONFUSION ABOUT DA NANG EVENTS. ARRIVAL OF EXTRA TRANSPORTS SEEN AS INSIGNIFICANT BECAUSE OF NUMBERS WANTING FLEE. ESTIMATES GVN LOST OVER 1 BILLION DOLS IN MIL EQUIPMENT IN PAST UNCLASSIFIED

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WEEKS. WP'S OBERDORFER REPORTS GROWING MIL PRESSURE ON QUI NHON WITH FALL OF DA NANG (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). SUN'S ISAACS SAYS NVA OFFENSIVE PLUNGING DEEPER INTO SVN APPEARS ABOUT ENGULF QUI NHON (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

SUN'S O'LOUGHLIN ON PIONEER CONTENDER DESCRIBES PANIC, DESPAIR ABOARD SHIP ANCHORED OFF DA NANG AS REFUGEES SWARM ON DESPITE VC THREATS. NYT'S BROWNE DESCRIBES CHAOTIC ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES AT CAM RANH.

WP'S MCCOMBS IN SAIGON (3/29) REPORTS KY IN INTERVIEW SAID SVN PEOPLE LOOKING FOR SAVIOR, AND HE WANTS FULL MIL POWERS IN NEW GOVT TO RALLY ARMED FORCES AGAINST COMMUNISTS, SAVE NATION.

SVN DEP PREMIER DAN APPEALS FOR UN ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH NVN TO SET UP CHANNELS TO GET DA NANG, CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REFUGEES FOOD, MEDICINE (NYT).

BANGKOK POST PUBLISHES WHAT IT SAYS IS NVN DOCUMENT INDICATING COMMUNISTS INTEND SET UP FEDERATION OF VN, CAMBODIA, LAOS, AND "PROTECTORATE" IN PART OF THAILAND. PAPER DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR STORY'S ACCURACY, SAYS

IT CAME FROM NVA DESERTER (CSM).

UN SECGEN SAID SIHANOUK TURNED DOWN OFFERS BRING WARRING SIDES TOGETHER TO TRY RESTORE PEACE IN CAMBODIA (TELTSCH, NYT 3/29). PEOPLE MAGAZINE QUOTES SIHANOUK THAT HE HAS REFORMED AND HOPES RETURN TO POWER AS SERIOUS CHIEF OF STATE (NYDN). USSR TOLD PRINCE IT NOW RECOGNIZES GRUNK AND WILL BREAK RELATIONS WITH PP REGIME (SUN 3/29; WREN, 3/29).

LON NOL WILL LEAVE PP TUES IN MOVE TO STRENGTHEN FAILING GKR MIL/POLITICAL FORCES AND PAVE WAY FOR NEGOTIATED PEACE (CSM). NO ONE CALLS FLIGHT POLITICAL EXILE AND LON NOL WILL RETAIN TITLE OF PRESIDENT. WILL GO TO HAWAII FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT VIA INDONESIA (AP, NYDN). NYT'S ANDELMAN IN PP REPORTS SPECULATION THAT TRIP MAY BE PRELUDE TO TALKS WITH INSURGENTS; BUT MOVE TOWARD ENEMY UNCERTAIN, AS IS VIEW POPULATION AND MILITARY WILL TAKE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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DEPARTURE. AP (PP) REPORTS MANY OBSERVERS THINK MIL SITUATION BEYOND REPAIR AND LON NOL'S EXIT MAY DO NOTHING HALT POLITICAL INFIGHTING (SUN). WP'S SIMONS IN PP STATES LON NOL DEPARTURE WILL LEAVE GKR IN HANDS OF SMALL GROUP OF DESPERATE MEN PREPARED GIVE UP ALMOST EVERYTHING "EXCEPT THEIR LIVES" TO ACHIEVE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH REBELS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

REBELS TAKE GKR POSITION 6 MILES FROM PP IN DRIVE AGAINST CITY'S NORTHERN DEFENSES. POCHENTONG SHELLING CONTINUES BUT AIRLIFT NOT HALTED (WP; AP NYDN, SUN). FANK REPORTEDLY RECAPTURES 2 VILLAGES ON ROUTE 4, 10 MILES SW OF PP (PHINQ).

2. CHINA

UPI REPORTS NCUSCR SOURCES SAYING HAK WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE MADE DECISION POSTPONING SCHEDULED US TOUR BY PRC ENTERTAINMENT TROUPE (LAT MAR 28). US-CHINA PEOPLE'S FRIENDSHIP ASSN CHAIRMAN HINTON CABLED HAK THURSDAY URGING DOS CALL OFF POSTPONEMENT OF PRC TROUPE, BECAUSE THIS IS "RETREAT" FROM SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE (REUTER, SUN MAR 29). HINTON SAID PHILA ORCHESTRA IN PRC TOUR PLAYED "STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER," WHICH MANY CHINESE MIGHT FIND OFFENSIVE, AND SAID US CANCELLATION OF CHINA TROUP AGAIN SHOWS US MILITARY INSTALLATION ON TAIWAN AND US RECOGNITION OF CKS REGIME REMAIN MAJOR BARRIERS TO NORMAL SINO-US RELATIONS (AP, WSTAR MAR 29).

NCNA REPORTED ALBERT/RHODES WERE HONORED AT PEKING BANQUET SUNDAY EVENING (AP NYT, NYDN).

BEGINNING PRC REGULAR SERVICE APR 6, SWISSAIR PLACES

FULL-PAGE WSJ AD, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE,ABOUTPRC DINING, TRANSPORTATION, ACCOMMODATIONS, SHOPPING AND "MEETING THE CHINESE."

3. JAPAN

CSM CITES INFORMED SOURCES TOKYO SAYING OVER WEEKEND US TOLD GOJ SECSTATE PREPARED MEET MIYAZAWA WASHINGTON, APRIL 10 OR 11.
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SEATRAN LINES NY STARTS NEW JAPAN-EUROPE "LANDBRIDGE" SERVICE APR 1, VIA TRANS-US RR; JOINT VENTURE WITH JAPAN LINES COMPETES WITH SEA-LAND ROUTE VIA SIBERIA (WSJ).

UPI (TOKYO) CITES GOJ REPORT FRIDAY TOKYO CPI ROSE 14 PERCENT MARCH, OVER SAME MONTH LAST YEAR; RAISES HOPE GOJ MAY MEET PROMISE HOLD PRICE RISE BELOW 15 PERCENT NATIONWIDE BY MAR 31 (JOC).

JOC (TOKYO) CITES MITI FORECAST MONDAY JFY 75 CRUDE STEEL OUTPUT MAY TOTAL ABOUT 110 MILLION TONS, COMPARED 114 MILLION TONS JFY 74.

LONG-TERM CREDIT BANK SAID SATURDAY INTL CONSORTIUM TO LEND PETROLEOS DEL PERU 50 MILLION DOLS, FROM FUNDS DEPOSITED 7 JAPANESE, 11 FOREIGN BANKS BY BANK MARKAZI IRAN; SEVEN YEARS, INTEREST "SLIGHTLY ABOVE" EURODOLLAR INTERBANK RATES. PETROPERU PLANS USE TO BUILD 500 MILLION DOL 535-MILE LONG PIPELINE FROM CENTRAL PERU TO PACIFIC (REUTER, NYT).

JAPAN ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY ASSN SAYS FEB COLOR-TV SET OUTPUT ROSE 7 PERCENT OVER JAN BUT DOWN 43 PERCENT OVER SAME MONTH LAST YEAR; FEB EXPORTS UP 60 PERCENT OVER JAN, TO 140,069 UNITS GKWSJ-TOKYO).

HONDA SAYS EARNINGS ROSE 8 PERCENT TO 18.7 MILLION DOLS IN HALF ENDED FEB 28 ON 43 PERCENT RISE SALES AS BRISK CAR, MOTORCYCLE EXPORTS MADE UP FOR LAGGING DOMESTIC DEMAND. ALSO, JAPAN AUTO MAKERS ASSN SAYS FEB OUTPUT ALL TYPES ROSE 13 PERCENT OVER JAN; EXPORTS UP 12 PERCENT OVER JAN; US ACCOUNTED FOR 58,782 UNITS, DOWN 41 PERCENT OVER SAME MONTH LAST YEAR (WSJ - TOKYO).

URAOKA PRINTING HAS ORDERS FROM 14 ARAB NATIONS TO PRINT MATERIAL IN ARABIC; RECENTLY OPENED LEBANON OFFICE; PRINTING 30 DIFFERENT TEXTBOOKS IN ARABIC FOR LIBYA (WSJ).

TOKYO GAINS GROUND IN BATTLE REDUCE AIR POLLUTION, BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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SAY FIVE MORE YEARS NEEDED TO MEET CLEAN AIR STANDARDS
SET BY CITY (REUTER, CSM).

4. KOREA

AP (SEOUL) SAYS YUN PO SUN AND KIM DAE JUNG PROPOSE TWO
LEADING OPPOSITION PARTIES MERGETO MAKE ANTI-PARK
CAMPAIGN MORE EFFECTIVE; KIM YOUNG SAM AND YANG IL DONG
ACCEPT.

AP (SEOUL) SAYS 300 RIOT POLICE USED TEAR GAS MONDAY
TO BLOCK 300 KOREA U STUDENTS FROM MARCHING OFF CAMPUS
TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST PARK -- FIRST CLASH REPORTED
SINCE SCHOOLS BEGAN NEW TERM MARCH. AFTER 20-MINUTE
ROCK-THROWING CLASH, STUDENTS RETREATED TO INDOOR
AUDITORIUM TO JOIN 500 MORE FOR INDOOR RALLY.

5. INDONESIA

EX-IM BANK ANNOUNCES 53.6 MILLION DOL LOAN TO GOI, TO
HELP FINANCE 153 MILLION DOL US COMSAT SYSTEM FROM HUGHES
AIRCRAFT, ITT, PHILCO-FORD; TERMS 8 PERCENT, SEVEN YEARS,
STARTING 1977 (JOC).

GOI 1974 TRADE SURPLUS ROSE EIGHT TIMES OVER LAST YEAR TO
3.57 BILLION DOLS DUE SOARING OIL PRICES. LOGGED SURPLUS
IN TRADE WITH JAPAN, AND 969 MILLION DOL SURPLUS WITH US
(WSJ - JAKARTA).

NYT'S LELYVELD IN JOGJAKARTA DESCRIBES GOI PROGRAM TO
RESETTLE POOR FROM OVERCROWDED JAVA TO LESS POPULATED
ISLANDS; AIM HELP 250,000 FAMILIES DO SO IN NEXT FIVE
YEARS. SAYS STUDIES SHOW MORE JAVANESE MOVED OTHER
ISLANDS IN RECENT YEARS WITHOUT GOI HELP THAN WITH IT,
SINCE FUNDS, TRANSPORTATION AND AVAILABLE RICE LANDS
UNDER PROGRAM LIMITED.

6. THAILAND

WP CITES RTG STATEMENT US, THAI OFFICIALS MEET BANGKOK
NEXT WEEK TO DRAFT MEASURES FOR WITHDRAWAL US FORCES.

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NYT'S LELYVELD IN BANGKOK (3/29) CITES MOFA SPOKESMAN
SAYING FRIDAY THAILAND WANTS WITHDRAW FROM SEATO BECAUSE
SERVES NO USEFUL PURPOSE; PROMPTLY CONTRADICTED BY
KUKRIT, SAYING THAILAND HAS NO PLANS END ALLIANCE WITH
US. DESCRIBES COUNTERPOINT OF "SWEEPING STATEMENTS
AND CANNY HEDGES" AS THAI WAY ADJUSTING TO RAPIDLY

CHANGING SITUATION IN NEIGHBORING INDOCHINA. QUOTES KUKRIT "BREEZILY REMARKING" IN INTERVIEW AT HOMEFRIDAY THAT RTG RESERVES RIGHT CHANGE MIND AND "ASK MORE AMERICAN TROOPS TO COME" IF CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE. ADDS CHARGE MASTERS MET CHATICHAI THURSDAY SOUS COULD BE "FORMALLY INFORMED" OF RTG DEMAND FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL WITHIN YEAR.

7. SINGAPORE

AP (CHITRIB) SAYS LEE KUAN YEW'S "RUGGED SOCIETY" THAT TRANSFORMED ISLAND REPUBLIC IN 15 YEARS FEATURES OBEDIENCE, HARD WORK, CLEANLINESS, THRIFT AND PROFIT MOTIVE. PROMPTED ONE VISITING BUSINESSMAN SAY, "I'VE DISCOVERED THE PAST -- AND IT WORKS."

8. AUSTRALIA

JOC (WASHINGTON) CITES AGATT REPORT AUSTRALIAN COTTON PROSPECTS BRIGHTER, WITH 171,000 BALES EXPECTED FROM 1974-75 CROP.

JOC (SYDNEY) NOTES ALMOST ONE PERCENT DROP IN 1974 CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION, SAYS EXPLORATION AT LOWEST LEVEL IN 11 YEARS. AUSTRALIA 70 PERCENT SELF-SUFFICIENT NOW, BUT IF NO NEW FIELDS DISCOVERED WILL BECOME TOTALLY DEPENDENT OIL IMPORTS WITHIN 12 YEARS.

JOC'S STOWE IN SYDNEY SAYS GM SELLING ISUZU-GEMINI AFTER PERSUADING GOA CURTAIL IMPORTS OTHER JAPANESE CARS. GEMINI ASSEMBLED IN AUSTRALIA HAS 55 PERCENT LOCAL PARTS CONTENT, LOWERS AVERAGE ALL GM AUSTRALIAN CARS TO 92.5 PERCENT, BUT THIS WELL ABOVE 85 PERCENT LEVEL AT WHICH IMPORT DUTY, QUOTAS APPLY.

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9. GENERAL

JOC'S FULLER DESCRIBES INCREASE IN CONTRACTS AWARDED US CONSULTING ENGINEERING FIRMS IN ADB-FINANCED PROJECTS. QUOTES STANLEY CONSULTANTS VP GUTTMANN GIVING CREDIT TO US EXEC DIRECTOR REX BEACH, IN MANILA, WHO "PRIVATE INDUSTRY ORIENTED."

WP (3/29) CITES SPOKESMAN THAT DOS DID NOT IMPROPERLY RELEASE DOCUMENTS ABOUT SEN BENSTEN; SAYS RELEASED TO JACK ANDERSON UNDER FOIA, IN RESPONSE REQUEST FOR INFO ON 249 CODELS.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. INDOCHINA

WASH POST (3/29) URGES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO PLIGHT OF VN REFUGEES AND SAYS THERE WILL BE ENOUGH TIME LATER TO DEBATE DIVISIVE ISSUE OF MILITARY AID (SEE USIA WIRELESS FILE).

BALT SUN (3/29) CALLS ON THIEU TO PROVIDE POLITICAL ROLE FOR ANTI-COMMUNIST OPPOSITIONISTS IN SAIGON IN EFFORT TO UNIFY GVN.

KEATLEY IN WSJ SAYS THREE DECADES OF US INVOLVEMENT IN INDOCHINA APPEAR HEADED TO "AN IGNOMINIOUS AND PANICKY END." SAYS GVN SHOWING NO SIGN OF GETTING ORGANIZED. CHANCES OF ADDITIONAL AID LESSENERED IN RECENT WEEKS.

TERHORST IN NYDN DISCUSSES ME SITUATION BUT IN PASSING SAYS CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR AID TO INDOCHINA FORTHCOMING ONLY WHEN US NATIONAL SECURITY CLEARLY AT STAKE.

LOFTON IN PHINQ SAYS CONGRESS CLEARLY RESPONSIBLE FOR STABBING OUR ALLIES IN VN AND CAMB IN THE BACKS.

WP'S MARDER FINDS "NUMEROUS" US OFFICIALS FEARFUL ADMIN HAS ENTRAPPED ITSELF IN SELF-DEFEATING PROJECT BY UNCLASSIFIED

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RESURRECTING "DOMINO THEORY"; IT DID NOT SEE THAT OVERDRAWING POTENTIAL GLOBAL CONSEQUENCES OF CONGRESSIONAL FAILURE TO VOTE INDOCHINA EMERGENCY AID WOULD COINCIDE WITH "DEVASTATING, PREMATURE COLLAPSE" OF GVN'S HOLD ON ITS TERRITORY (IN WIRELESS FILE).

LEWIS (NYT) CITES HAK'S PRESS CONFERENCE ASSERTIONS LAST WEEK ABOUT US "DESTROYING" SVN BY WITHHOLDING AID, AND "CATAclySMIC" IMPACT THIS WILL HAVE ON US POSITION IN WORLD. LEWIS MAINTAINS "FACTS BELIE SUCH TALK" (IN WIRELESS FILE).

11. CHINA

K.S. KAROL (IN PARIS) CONTENTS STABILITY, SOLIDARITY OF "LONG MARCH" GENERATION OF THE 800 -- KEY PRC POSTS ARE STILL HELD BY LONG MARCH VETERANS OR THEIR LONG-TIME COLLABORATORS -- DOES NOT CEASE TO SURPRISE FOREIGN OBSERVERS NOR TO EARN THEIR ADMIRATION. SAYS PRC HAS NOT KNOWN EASY LIFE; "THREATENED SUCCESSIVELY" AND SOMETIMES IN SAME MOMENT BY US AND SOVIET, QUARANTINED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, DEPRIVED OF AID OR EXTERIOR COOPERATION, SHE HAS HAD TO CONFRONT CONTINUALLY PROBLEMS SO SERIOUS THAT INTERNAL DIVISIONS, CONFRONTATIONS COULD

NOT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED. SAYS MAOISM CONSTITUTES BOLD
EFFORT TO RID COUNTRY OF PAST'S CRUEL HERITAGE BY
REVOLUTIONARY MEANS. NOTHING INDICATES TRANSITION
FROM "GENERATION OF THE 800" TO ITS SUCCESSOR WILL
TURN POWER TO ITS OWN ADVANTAGE; BUT LIKELY THAT
FUTURE CHINESE RULERS MAY BE LESS SUPPLE, OPEN THAN

PREDECESSORS. THIS WORRIES MAO, AND PROBABLY PROLONGS
HIS REIN (NYT MAR 29).

WASH POST (3/30) SAYS REASON FOR CANCELLATION OF PRC
PERFORMING ARTS TROUPE STEMS FROM NATURE OF US-PRC
CULTURAL EXCHANGE. DEFINES "MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL" TO MEAN
EACH SIDE HAS VETO OVER INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS. UNFAIR
TO CRITICIZE DOS OVER REJECTION OF PRC EFFORT TO
POLITICIZE CULTURAL EXCHANGE SINCE THIS IS ONLY
PROTECTION AGAINST EXPLOITATION OF ONE COUNTRY BY
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ANOTHER. CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT CULTURAL EXCHANGES
WITH TOTALITARIAN NATION ESSENTIALLY AN ADVERSARY
RELATIONSHIP AND PROBLEMS INEVITABLE. KISSINGER
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NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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